

That which is claimed:

1. A method comprising:  
receiving a search query comprising a first search term;  
receiving a user search attribute from a user profile;  
deriving a second search term from the user search attribute; and  
processing the search query based on the second search term.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein processing the search query comprises modifying the search query to include the second search term.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein processing the search query comprises processing a search result based on the second search term.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein processing the search result comprises sorting the search result.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the search query comprises an implicit search query.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the search query comprises an explicit search query.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein processing the search query comprises replacing the first search term with the second search term.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein processing the search query comprises adding the second search term to the implicit search query.
9. The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the search query to a search engine, the search engine associated with an index.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the index comprises a local index.
11. The method of claim 9, wherein the index comprises a global index.
12. The method of claim 9, further comprising receiving a result set from the search engine, the result set comprising a plurality of article identifiers.
13. The method of claim 12, further comprising ranking the article identifiers based at least in part on the user search attribute.
14. The method of claim 1, further comprising adding the first search term to the user profile.

15. The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying a user associated with the user profile based in part on a user activity.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the user activity comprises at least one of a typing pattern and a mouse movement.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the user profile comprises a data store.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the data store comprises one of a file and a database.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein the user search attribute comprises a category.

20. The method of claim 1, wherein the user search attribute comprises a user preference.

21. The method of claim 1, wherein the user search attribute comprises a user activity.

22. A method comprising:

receiving a search query comprising a first search term;

receiving a user search attribute from a user profile; and

processing the search query based on the user search attribute.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the user search attribute identifies a level of interest in a category.
24. The method of claim 22, further comprising marking the user search engine for identification by the search engine.
25. A computer-readable medium on which is encoded program code, the program code comprising:
- program code for receiving a search query comprising a first search term;
  - program code for receiving a user search attribute from a user profile
  - deriving a second search term from the user search attribute; and
  - program code for processing the search query based on the second search term.
26. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein program code for processing the search query comprises program code for replacing the first search term with the second search term.
27. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein program code for processing the search query comprises program code for adding the second search term to the implicit search query.

28. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, further comprising program code for transmitting the search query to a search engine, the search engine associated with an index.

29. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, further comprising program code for receiving a result set from the search engine, the result set comprising a plurality of article identifiers.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, further comprising program code for ranking the article identifiers based at least in part on the user search attribute.

31. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, further comprising program code for adding the first search term to the user profile.

32. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, further comprising identifying a user associated with the user profile based in part on a user activity.

33. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein program code for processing the search query comprises program code for modifying the search query to include the second search term.

34. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein program code for processing the search query comprises program code for processing a search result based on the second search term.

35. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein program code for processing the search result comprises program code for sorting the search result.

36. A computer-readable medium on which is encoded program code, the program code comprising:

program code for receiving a search query comprising a first search term;

program code for receiving a user search attribute from a user profile; and

program code for the search query based on the user search attribute.

37. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, further comprising program code for marking the user search engine for identification by the search engine.